Application Number: 09/756005

Art Unit: 3624 Inventor: Dan Kabin

ABSTRACT

It is a virtual money card with a unique identifier, which will be used by consumers for purchasing through a computer network like the internet, the telephone, or even at the buying place itself (like in stores). The card is being provided by an issuing company at the request of a person or a company. The card does not have to exist physically, and is limited to an amount of money like a money bill. For example a card of 100 dollars or 1000 dollars may be issued. The card is identified by a card number and includes also an identifying code. The identifying code number can be constant during the card's existence or changing for each purchase made with the card. The card can also be comprised of some more details like the card holder's name and id number. A card holder may use this card for purchasing until the money in the card is finished, afterwards the card turns worthless and no more purchases will be authorized using it. In addition the card can also be used for transferring money from a first person to a second person, which is done securely with the help of a "changing code". The changing code is another code known only to the card owner (first person), to the issuing company and to the person to whom the money is transferred (second person), but it is not known to the seller at any stage. The second person can use this code to change the card's details and prevent any use of this card by anybody else including the first person.

The importance of this card is that it will allow more secured purchases through the internet, the telephone, through other communication systems, and even at the buying place itself, and it will also enable money transference from person to person in an easy, secured and fast way. Because the risk in case of a fraud is limited to the card's limit this invention will encourage many people to make purchases, especially through a computer network like the internet, and through the telephone. The invention combines some of the regular credit card abilities with cash money abilities, creating the virtual money card abilities. A virtual money card can be used on the internet and on the telephone like a credit card, and can change hands like cash money. The virtual money card has the limitation of amount of money which is very much like a money bill on which the amount of money is always written. Combining these abilities makes the virtual money card very useful.

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